

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

*Please substitute the following replacement paragraph for the paragraph at page 1, lines 5-12 of the specification:*

--The present invention relates to wire feeders which feed wire to a welding operation wherein the welding wire must be fed in a controlled manner without tangling or interruption. Wire feeders are known in the art and are generally shown and described in Seuffer 5,816,466 which is hereby incorporated by reference herein as background information illustrating the general structure of a wire feeder including two sets of pinch rollers. Sakai ~~5,053,598~~<sup>5,053,591</sup> is incorporated herein as background information and illustrates the application of force on the welding wire by the pinch rollers to grip the wire. Hubenko 4,235,362; Gleason 3,694,620; and Okada 3,730,136 are also incorporated by reference herein as background information further illustrating wire feeding devices.--

*Please substitute the following replacement paragraph for the paragraph at page 10, lines 12-18 of the specification:*

--Compression cylinder 110 is pivotally mounted on support member 12 by cylinder mount 130 which allows cylinder 110 to pivot between release position 122 and drive position 116. Cylinder mount 130 can be connected to member 12 in similar fashion as pivot~~lever~~ mount 86. Cylinder mount 130 includes a through hole 136 and a pivot pin 138, and cylinder post 134 also includes a through hole 140 which receives pivot pin 138 to allow the pivotal movement of cylinder 110. As stated above, with respect to pivot~~lever~~ mount 86, any pivotal mount known in the art could be used to allow for the pivotal movement of the compression cylinder.--

*Please substitute the following replacement paragraph for the paragraph at page 13, lines 6-18 of the specification:*

--FIG. 5 is a schematic representation of the changing overall cylinder force designated by the numeral 250. In this respect, when only the first spring 200 is compressed, the increase in overall spring force is shown by segment 260 which is linearly increasing at a fixed rate in relation to the deflection of the spring. The linear increase is a function of the spring modulus of spring 200. However, once second spring 202 is engaged, which is shown as point 262 ~~point 260~~, the overall spring force will increase at a greater rate 264 for the same change in deflection. The linear increase

in force in this range of deflection is a function of the spring modulus of spring 200 and the spring modulus of spring 202. As a result, first spring 200 can be configured for the range of forces needed for a softer wire and can allow for a more fine tuned adjustment necessary for the softer wire. In the event that the user of the wire feeder chooses to change to a harder wire, the gripper can be quickly adjusted so that second spring 202 is engaged thereby producing the second range of forces at a second level of adjustment necessary for the harder wire. Furthermore, the accuracy needed for adjusting the harder wire can be easily obtained without necessitating many rotations of cylinder 152.--